

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Scott D. Sturgeon et al.

Serial No.: 10/035,588

Filed: October 18, 2001

Docket No.: 10001084-1

Title: REPLACEABLE INK CONTAINER FOR AN INKJET PRINTING SYSTEM

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 29 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A¹

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one exemplary embodiment of a printing system 10 shown with its cover open, which includes at least one replaceable ink container 12 that is installed in a receiving station 14. With the replaceable ink container 12 properly installed into the receiving station 14, ink is provided from the replaceable ink container 12 to at least one inkjet printhead 16. The inkjet printhead 16 is responsive to activation signals from a printer portion 18 to deposit ink on print media 22. As ink is ejected from the printhead 16, the printhead 16 is replenished with ink from the ink container 12. In one exemplary embodiment the replaceable ink container 12, receiving station 14, and inkjet printhead 16 are each part of a scanning carriage that is moved relative to a print media 22 to accomplish printing. The printer portion 18 includes a media tray 24 for receiving the print media 22. As the print media 22 is stepped through a print zone, the scanning carriage 20 moves the printhead 16 relative to the print media 22. The printer portion 18 selectively activates the printhead 16 to deposit ink on print media 22 to thereby accomplish printing.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 26 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A²

The electrical interconnection between the ink container 12 and the printer portion 18 may also be established to allow information to be passed between the replaceable ink container 12 and the printer portion 18. Information passed between the replaceable ink container 12 and the printer portion 18 includes, for example, information related to the compatibility of replaceable ink container with printer portion 18 and operation status information such as ink level information.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 12 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A3
The receiving station 14 includes a guide rail 46, a guide slot 47, an engagement feature 48 and a latch engagement feature 50. The guide rail 46 cooperates with the guide feature 40 on the replaceable ink container 12 to guide the ink container 12 into the receiving station 14. Once the replaceable ink container 12 is fully inserted into the receiving station 14, the engagement feature 42 associated with the replaceable ink container engages the engagement feature 48 associated with the receiving station 14, securing a front end or a leading end of the replaceable ink container 12 to the receiving station 14.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 18 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A4
Each bay 56 and 58 of the receiving station 14 includes an aperture 60 for receiving the upright fluid interconnect 36 that extends therethrough. The fluid interconnect 36 is a fluid inlet for ink to exit a corresponding fluid outlet associated with the ink container 12. An electrical interconnect 62 is also included in each receiving bay 56 and 58. The electrical interconnect 62 includes a plurality of electrical contacts 64. In the exemplary embodiment, the electrical contacts 64 are an arrangement of four spring-loaded electrical contacts with proper installation of the replaceable ink container 12 into the corresponding bay of the receiving station 14. Proper engagement with each of the electrical connectors 62 and fluid interconnects 36 is established in a reliable manner.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A5
The guide slot 47 in the exemplary embodiment is a pair of guide slots 47 disposed on either side of the fluid interconnects 60 within each bay 56 and 58. The guide slots 47 cooperate with guide feature 41 to guide the ink container 12 into the receiving station 14. Upon proper insertion of the ink container 12 into the receiving

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A5
cont station 14 fluidic and electrical interconnections are established between the ink container 12 and the receiving station 14.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, lines 9-10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A6 Figs. 5a, 5b, 5c, and 5d show front plan, side plan, back plan, and bottom plan views, respectively, of the replaceable ink container 12 of the exemplary embodiment. As shown in Fig. 5a and Fig. 5b, the replaceable ink container 12 includes a pair of outwardly projecting guide features 40 and a pair of outwardly projecting guide features 41.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, lines 14 and 16-17 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A7 In the exemplary embodiment, each of these guide features 40, 41 extend outwardly in a direction orthogonal to upright side 70 of the replaceable ink container 12. The pair of guide features 40 is disposed forward, toward a front surface or leading edge 72, of a central axis 71 of a minor axis of the ink container 12. The pair of guide features 41 is disposed behind the central axis 71 of a minor axis of the ink container 12. In addition, in this exemplary embodiment, each of the pairs of guide features 40 and 41 are disposed on opposite sides of a central axis 73 of a major axis of the ink container 12. In this exemplary embodiment, the guide features 40, 41 are disposed below each of the central axes 71 and 73.
